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COMMENTS :

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Cuban, PEDRO LUIS DIAZ LANZ had requested permission to be interviewed with an attorney present and that this request had been granted.

Mr. [redacted] CIA representative [redacted] [redacted] furnished the following information which he said had been forwarded to CIA headquarters with respect to the activities and associates of FRANK FIORINI. (C)

FRANK FIORINI, PEDRO LUIS DIAZ LANZ and RICARDO DE LA LORIE BALS had arrived in Mexico City on 10/27/58, after having traveled from the Miami, Florida, area by automobile and having encountered difficulty with Mexican Immigration authorities upon entering Mexico. [redacted] did not know their Mexican port of entry but stated that they had been in Monterrey; therefore, he concluded that they had crossed the border at Brownsville or Laredo, Texas, and that they must have entered Mexico 10/24, 25 or 10/26/58. Following the arrival of the trio in Mexico City, DIAZ LANZ and DE LA LORIE proceeded by air to Venezuela returning about 10/31/58. Shortly thereafter they again left Mexico City by air enroute to San Francisco, California. (C)

Meanwhile, on 11/4/58, FIORINI departed from Mexico City in the automobile and is reported to have met DIAZ LANZ and DE LA LORIE at Yuma, Arizona. (S) (U)

On 11/8/58, they are reported to have been at the Highway House Motel at Phoenix, Arizona. [redacted] believed that from Phoenix they proceeded to Kingman, Arizona, where they made the purchase of a C-46 airplane which had been U.S. Government surplus and which was purchased and registered in FIORINI's name, even though it is presumed that the funds were provided by the two Cubans. (S) (U)

From Phoenix, Arizona, the group flew the airplane to Veracruz and Acapulco, Mexico, before proceeding to Apatzingan. (S) (U) (C)

Mr. [redacted] expressed the belief that some member of the Cuban group may have advised Mexican military authorities regarding the truckload of arms and the airplane. He added that to the best of his knowledge, after being detained for several days, all subjects and the airplane were released; however, [redacted] was not certain as to whether or not the arms were returned to them. (S) (U) (C)

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Classification
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SP 2 MAC/ang
11/18/81

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(c) [redacted] advised that from 10/27/58 until 11/4/58, FIORINI was registered at the Bel Sol Apartments in Mexico City and gave his U. S. address as being 422 Glen Ridge Road, Key Biscayne, Florida. He also was registered at the Hotel Statler in Mexico City and gave his U.S. address as being 310 N.E. Fifth Street, Fort Lauderdale, Florida.

[redacted] stated that a recent newspaper article in the Mexico City afternoon paper, "Ultimas Noticias" had published a photograph of FRANK FIORINI standing on some of the graves of BATISTA followers who had been executed by the triumphant FIDEL CASTRO RUZZ revolutionaries. Cu

(c) [redacted] stated that CIA [redacted] FIORINI appeared to be a "New York Italian gangster type" who spoke only broken Spanish and with what appeared to be an Italian accent. Cu

Inquiry at the Office of the Federal Attorney General, Mexico, D. F., developed information to the effect that all investigation in this case was conducted by the prosecutive and judicial authorities at Morelia, Michoacan. In view of the fact that investigative informants of this office have considerable difficulty in checking official records in the State of Michoacan, any effort to take this action has been delayed until it is possible for this investigation to be conducted by personnel of this office or an investigative informant who has adequate credentials for that purpose. (S)(u)

From the foregoing data concerning FIORINI, it appears that he is probably identical with subject FRANK ANTHONY STURGIS. It also appears possible, in view of FIORINI's reported presence in Cuba, the question of his identity may already have been fully clarified.

LEAD X

MEXICO CITY

AT MEXICO, D. F. AND MORELIA, MICHOACAN

Will explore the possibilities of obtaining the results of interviews of FIORINI by Mexican authorities and any information which can be obtained concerning the outcome of the arrest of FIORINI and the group of Cubans.

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